Cruise shipping policy

531. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated cruise shipping policy to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to develop exclusive docking facilities for cruise liners at important ports in the country by the Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating such facilities that are proposed to be developed in the ports in Orissa coast to promote this tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India approved Cruise Shipping Policy on 22/9/2008. Cruise Shipping would be a path breaking development in India's effort of carve a prominent space in world tourism and it would showcase India as a major source and destination of world tourism. With the implementation of this policy, the growth in diverse sectors will improve and it will earn precious foreign exchange for the country. It will not only generate enormous employment opportunities but will also promote people to people contact, which will enhance India's friendly ties with foreign countries.

Various features of cruise shipping policy include conducive fiscal regime, development of facilities at Ports and connectivity through rail, road transport, air and metro, quick completion of immigration formalities, hassle free custom clearance and proper waste disposal system ensuring Cleaner Ocean.

(c) and (d) Cochin Port, New Mangalore Port, Mumbai Port, Chennai Port and Tuticorin Port have initiated proposals for developing dedicated passenger cum cruise terminals for cruise vessels. In so far as Orissa concerned, there is only one Major Port namely Paradip Port. Presently, there is no proposal to develop exclusive docking facilities for cruise liners in this port. With regard to non-major Ports, as per Indian Ports Act, 1908, these ports are under the jurisdiction of respective Maritime States.

Manned mission to Moon

532. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether encouraged by the success of the Chandrayan-I project, Government has plan to undertake a first-manned moon-mission;

(b) if so, the details and targets fixed thereunder; and

(c) the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no immediate plan for manned mission to Moon.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

River Front and Mega City Project for Ahmedabad

533. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released by Central Government for the city of Ahmedabad, Gujarat in the name of River Front Project on Sabarmati River and Mega City Project of Ahmedabad; and

(b) whether Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has approached the Central Government for sale of plots on Sabarmati River Bank, which is being constructed with help from Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No fund has been released for the city of Ahmedabad in the name of River Front Project on Sabarmati under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). Mega City scheme did not cover Ahmedabad City.

(b) Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has not approached the Central Government for sale of plots on Sabarmati River Bank.

Congestion and encroachments in INA market

534. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the INA Market, New Delhi has become congested due to encroachments;

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to remove encroachments in the said market;

(c) whether Government proposes to construct an ultra modern double storied market on the land adjoining Super Bazar and behind it so that shopkeepers of INA Market could be shifted in it and separate sites be fixed for general purchase, restaurants, fruits, etc.; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to assess the extent of encroachment and unauthorized construction in INA market, a joint survey was carried out on 26.02.2004 by Land and Development office (L and DO), Directorate of Estates (DE), Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). Joint action to remove the encroachments in the INA Market by the officials of the MCD, L and DO and Delhi Police was taken in the past. Action for removal of encroachments and unauthorized construction is taken from time to time.

(c) and (d) A re-development plan for the INA Market has been submitted by the National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC). Discussions have been held with the